

USIB-D-40.5/3
Final *
1 August 1961

THIRD ANNUAL REPORT
TO THE
UNITED STATES INTELLIGENCE BOARD
FROM THE
COMMITTEE ON EXPLOITATION OF FOREIGN LANGUAGE PUBLICATIONS

This Committee is composed of representatives of State, Office of the Secretary of Defense, Army, Navy, Air Force, National Security Agency, the Joint Staff, Atomic Energy Commission, Federal Bureau of Investigation and Central Intelligence Agency.

Program Review

1. The Committee conducted its customary review of the programs of all government agencies engaged in the exploitation of foreign language publications. Programs of the Foreign Documents Division, CIA, of its contracting facility, the Joint Publications Research Service (JPRS) and of the other USIB agencies were, in the course of the review, approved or modified to meet the changing requirements of the intelligence community.

The results of the review became apparent in a revised system of exploitation and reporting designed to meet the specific needs of community components in the most timely fashion. The new system provided for the development of special ad hoc reports on specific topics of intelligence interest in support of and in coordination with intelligence production programs of the IB components, for continuous serialized reporting of scientific, economic, political, sociological and military intelligence information to meet the established and constant need of consumers for this type of service, and for the production of biographic and industrial plant data in a format permitting ready incorporation of such data into existing registers.

The Committee's review further resulted in the adoption of measures for the prevention of duplicative exploitation activities and for the coordination of programs for the most effective exploitation of foreign language publications.

Translation

1. The Committee gave due attention to the translations sponsored and disseminated by the Office of Technical Services, Department of Commerce, the Social Science Research Council, and the National Science Foundation.

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*Noted, as amended, by USIB on 1 August 1961 (USIB-M-166, item 8).

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Cooperation with these organizations provided an effective safeguard against duplication, as well as a channel for the release of translated materials to non-government researchers. Thus in the past year over 100,000 pages of translation were made available to US science and industry through the Office of Technical Services' distribution of translations of Sino-Soviet Bloc scientific and technological literature, and to the academic world through the Social Science Research Council's arrangements for universities to receive translations of Communist Chinese materials in the field of social sciences.

2. The Committee followed closely the activities of commercial translation agencies, especially in respect to the increasing number of cover-to-cover translations of Soviet scientific journals supported by grants. Full translation by the JPRS of journals relevant to particular needs of the intelligence community were also sponsored by components of the Committee.

3. Developments in machine translation, as they occurred, were reviewed and discussed in Committee sessions.

Chinese Communist Publications

Throughout 1960, and particularly following July of that year, the Committee observed with concern the declining quantity and quality of information available on Communist China as a result of Chinese Communist restrictions on the export of publications. In December 1960 the Committee reviewed a comprehensive report prepared for it on the current availability and informational value of these publications. In recognition of the increasing difficulties of overt procurement described in the report and in acknowledgement of the importance of Chinese Communist publications as a prime source of information for intelligence, the Committee thereupon approved a recommendation to the Committee on Procurement of Foreign Publications for the promotion of clandestine means for the regular procurement of Chinese Communist publications.

Recommendation No. 10 of the Joint Study Group

The Committee responded to this recommendation in coordination with COMINT and Security Committees.


The CEFLP took the position that the great bulk of foreign language documents exploited under this Committee for information of intelligence value are currently being processed by linguists for whom only minimal security clearance is required and many of whom are foreign born. Therefore, a modification of security procedures and practices to permit the utilization of foreign born translators was not considered necessary or desirable for the purposes of this Committee.

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Plans and Objectives

1. The Committee will continue to conduct periodic reviews of all programs for the exploitation of foreign language publications, engaged in or sponsored by USIB components.
2. It will provide guidance and coordination for these programs, recommending revisions or modifications in accord with the changing requirements for intelligence information from foreign language publications.
3. It will evaluate the information reports resulting from these exploitation programs to determine their effectiveness in meeting inter-agency intelligence needs.
4. It will review the coordination of translation services within the intelligence community and recommend actions when necessary to improve this coordination.
5. It will remain cognizant of the activities of other government and non-government agencies engaged in or sponsoring the translation or abstracting of foreign language publications and seek, wherever possible, to coordinate such activities in the interest of the intelligence community.
6. It will follow closely new developments in machine translation with the ultimate objective of utilizing MT for the satisfaction of community requirements for intelligence information from foreign language publications.
7. It will coordinate its activities as appropriate with those of other USIB Committees.


for J. J. BAGNALL ✓
Chairman, Committee on Exploitation of
Foreign Language Publications

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Enclosure:
Tab A

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TAB A

SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES OF
FOREIGN DOCUMENTS DIVISION, CIA
AS A SERVICE OF COMMON CONCERN TO THE
INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY

1 June 1960 - 1 June 1961

A. Foreign Language Publications Exploited

Volume (No. of Items)

USSR	40,132
Eastern Europe	112,590
Communist Far East	18,804
Free World	72,840

TOTAL: 244,366

B. Reports Produced (In Pages)

Economic	83,506
Scientific	135,812
Political	61,483
Sociological	14,988
Military	15,072
Biographic	3,512
Geographic	6,250

TOTAL: 320,623

C. Coordination Through Central Index of Translations

1. New entries added	34,427
2. Items checked against index	18,828
3. Duplication prevented (pages)	95,524
4. Estimated savings of USIB components through known prevention of duplication	\$477,620

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